NEWS RELEASE

07-093

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALTRANS AND PARTNERS WORK TOGETHER TO IMPROVE FISH HABITAT

Eureka – Caltrans is proud to announce the completion of an improvement project for fish passage at Chadd Creek, located on Route 101 near Redcrest in Humboldt County. The project was funded by a \$450,000 grant from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG).

In addition to providing funding, CDFG also provided technical assistance with the project. Other partners included the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service, California State Parks, and Calfire.

"This project was a great example of state and federal agencies working together to restore fish passage to 3,600 feet of quality fish habitat," said Gary Flosi, Senior Biologist Supervisor with CDFG.

This location was identified in a 2005 study by Humboldt State University (HSU) as being in need of retrofit. The original culvert, built in 1964, had deteriorated and posed a barrier to fish.

This project included installing redwood baffles in the existing culvert and constructing a fishway at the outlet of the culvert to provide passage for juvenile and spawning adult salmonids (fish of the salmon and trout family).

Some of the wood used to build the baffles for this project came from the Confusion Hill Bypass Project. Caltrans minimizes impacts to the environment by conserving and reusing resources whenever possible.







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"Juvenile fish have already been seen moving up the fishway," said Caltrans Hydraulics Engineer Glenn Hurlburt, who designed the project and also oversaw construction. "I am very pleased with the outcome of this project."

Caltrans is committed to restoring other fish passage sites identified in the HSU study. Restoration is incorporated into capitol improvement projects when possible. Outside sources of funding, such as the grant from CDFG that funded the project at Chadd Creek, are also sought whenever available.

Photos from this project can be viewed on the Caltrans District 1 website at http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist1/d1pubinfo/press.htm (click on the "Accompanying Photos" link next to news release 07-093).

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Photos of this project can be obtained http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist1/d1pubinfo/press.htm. Please use the phrase "Courtesy of the Department of Transportation" if you publish any of these images.

